

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 138
By Caldwell

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Coach Jill Prudden
and the 1996-1997 Oak Ridge High School girls'
basketball team.

WHEREAS, the Tennessee General Assembly is very proud of its athletic teams that
display exceptional skill, tremendous fortitude and exemplary determination and succeed; and

WHEREAS, the notable 1996-1997 Oak Ridge High School girls' basketball team,
demonstrating an abundance of heart and hustle, added another page to their already glorious
athletic scrapbook, winning the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association Class AAA
State Tournament; and

WHEREAS, Oak Ridge first showed clear signs of greatness when they won the
Greenville Christmas Tournament, with victories against Lassitee of Georgia 78-40, T. W. Josey
of Georgia 67-47, Columbia of Tennessee 58-41 and Miami Edison of Florida 86-57; and

WHEREAS, the Lady Wildcats won the regular season District 3-AAA championship,
with an unblemished 14-0 record; and

WHEREAS, after a first-round bye, they won the District 3-AAA Tournament, with
impressive victories over Halls 76-46 and Karns 77-40; and

WHEREAS, despite a tough schedule, Oak Ridge won the Region 4-AAA title, by
defeating Maryville 78-63, Sevier County 61-45 and Heritage 63-54; and

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WHEREAS, in the crucial substate match, they overwhelmed Greeneville 120-33, in an awesome display of powerful offense and a swarming defense; and

WHEREAS, in the State Tournament the Lady Wildcats beat White County (then ranked 6th in the nation in the *USA Today* poll) 61-46; Dickson County 71-55 and traditional power Shelbyville 54-35; and

WHEREAS, their superb overall record of 33 victories and only 3 losses represented a winning percentage of .917; and

WHEREAS, ably assisted by Lynn Burkey and Kim Tisdale, Coach Jill Prudden has added to her list of accomplishments and laurels with her five-hundredth victory and third state championship (1988, 1994 and 1997); and

WHEREAS, this tremendously talented team was led by two-time Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association Class AAA "Miss Basketball" Erin McGinnis, a senior center, team captain and all-time school top scorer. The other members were: seniors Becky Lee, Kysha Mitchell, Leah Sharp, Maunea Smith, and Leah Bird; junior Whitley Campbell; sophomores Brandi Long, and Jennifer Wilson; and freshman Danielle Barnard; and

WHEREAS, the Lady Wildcats have been strongly supported by Principal Dr. Jim Duncan; and

WHEREAS, we are pleased to pause in our deliberations to specially honor this team, which is a credit to their school and community; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE-HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we honor and congratulate Coach Jill Prudden and the 1996-1997 Oak Ridge High School girls' basketball team and wish them well in their future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That appropriate copies of this resolution be prepared for presentation to the school and to each person named above, with this final clause omitted from such copies.

